

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE FUND
(Indian Council of Agricultural Research)
Room No. 707, KAB -I, Pusa, New Delhi - 110012

No. NASF/AE-7010/2018-19 / 229

Dated: 27.07.2018

The Vice Chancellor,
Tezpur University, Napam-784028, Assam

Subject: Sanction letter for the Research project entitled, "Electric Field Based Novel Technologies for Pilot Scale Processing of Juice and Pulp from Potential Fruits of NE Region" under the National Agricultural Science Fund (NASF)

The Empowered Committee (EC) of the NASF, considered the proposal on "Electric Field Based Novel Technologies for Pilot Scale Processing of Juice and Pulp from Potential Fruits of NE Region" in its thirty third meeting held on 6th June, 2018 and approved the proposal for implementation under the NASF. The total cost of this project is ₹ 168.84450 Lakh (Rupees one crore sixty eight lakh eighty four thousand four hundred and fifty only) for a period of three years (August 2018 to July 2021). The financial sanction of the competent authority for the project is now being accorded for the period from 1st August 2018 to 31st March 2020. The sanction for the period from 1st April 2020 till the end of the project i.e. 31st July 2021 will be conveyed later. The release of fund will be through PFMS/FMS-MIS and the funded centre need to comply accordingly.

1. Name of the Lead Centre and address
Department of Food Engineering & Technology, Tezpur University, Napam-784028, Assam
2. Name & Designation of the Principal Investigator
Dr. Brijesh Srivastava, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Food Engineering & Technology Tezpur University, Napam-784028, Assam
3. Names of Cooperating Centre and addresses
Agricultural and Food Engineering Department, IIT, Kharagpur- 721302, West Bengal
ICAR Research Complex for N.E.H Region, Umiam-793103, Meghalaya
4. Name & Designation of the Cooperating Centre Principal Investigators
Dr. Prem Prakash Srivastav, Associate Professor, Agricultural and Food Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, West Bengal
Dr. S. Ruth Assumi, Scientist, Division of Horticulture, ICAR Research Complex for N.E.H Region, Umiam-793103, Meghalaya

The details of the project are given in the project document in Annexure I. The head-wise and budget (both consolidated and for each partner) are given in the Annexures II to VII.

The Sanction will be subject to the following conditions:

1. The Principal Investigator (PI) and the Lead Centre will have the overall responsibility for carrying out the work shown in the project as given in Annexure I. Each Cooperating Centre Investigator (CCPI) and the Cooperating Centre will have the responsibility for work done at the Centre under the project by the competent authority of NASF and the centre will cooperate with the Lead Centre and the NASF authorities.
2. All the Centres and the scientists will follow the rules and regulations of the ICAR for the operation of the projects sanctioned under NASF.
3. **Financial and Procurement**
 - i. Funds will be released by the Secretariat of the NASF directly to the institutions of the Lead Centre and to the institutions of the CCPIs (Cooperating Centre).
 - ii. The Lead Centre and each of the Cooperating Centre will submit to the ADG (NASF) a Utilization Certificate (UC) in the prescribed format duly verified by the concerned Officer(s) twice every financial year: the first will be the UC for the immediate preceding financial year ending 31st March and will be submitted by the 15th of April and the second a site-monthly UC for the period from 1st April to 30th September of the year by the 15th of October. Each Cooperating Centre will submit a copy each of the aforesaid UCs to the PI.
 - iii. For facilitating smooth and speedy implementation of the activities envisaged under the project, the PI and the CCPI from each Cooperating Centre will exercise powers for expenditure on the project to the extent of sanctioned funds of his/her respective component of the project as given in Annexure VIII.
 - iv. The Heads of the Lead Centre and the Cooperating Centre(s) will ensure that the project is carried out in an efficient manner, provide laboratory space, salary, logistic facilities and services required and monitor its progress on a regular basis.
 - v. **The expenditure will be made only on the approved items.** The amount sanctioned under a head/subhead is the maximum budgetary limit for that item but the actual expenditure should not exceed the amount actually released by the ADG under the head for the period concerned. In case of public organizations the expenditure under any head shall be made by the Lead or Cooperating centre in accordance with their own institutional prescribed rules/ norms. However, in case of conducting workshops, meetings, and cost of Advisory Committee meetings norms as enclosed as Annexure IX should be followed. **Any re-appropriation from one head to another is not permissible.** All institutions including those belonging to the ICAR will maintain a ledger for the project. In case of private and non-governmental organizations the expenditure should be made in accordance with ICAR/NASF rules. In case any guidance is required in this regard the Lead or Co-operating centre should take the guidance of the Finance and Accounts Officer of the nearest ICAR institutes with information to the ADG, NASF.
 - vi. There will be no revalidation of unspent funds released for recurring expenditure from one financial year to the next financial year. For funds released for non-recurring expenditure revalidation will be allowed in exceptional cases. Funds revalidated once will not be eligible for the second time.

vii. Accrual accounting system has to be followed for the funds of the project without any exception. The reporting of annual accounts will also be in accordance with the accrual accounting system.

viii. At the end of each financial year, a Utilization Certificate will be submitted by the designated Finance Officer/E&AO/Comptroller of the Lead and each Cooperating Centre by 15th April indicating the head wise expenditure incurred in the previous year and resultant unspent balances/savings. Only on the receipt of UC, any funds will be released for the next financial year after adjusting for the savings from the previous financial year. Each of the Lead and the Cooperating Centre will submit an Audited Utilization Certificate (AUC) for the previous financial year by the 30th September of each year in the prescribed proformas. The Central Government/State Government Institutes will get the certificate from the CAG/State AG. The Universities (General and Agricultural) and the non-ICAR institutes will have the option to get the certificate from their statutory auditors or from a Chartered Accountant empanelled by ICAR (Please see the website <http://www.icar.org.in/nasf/index.html> for the list of empaneled chartered accountants and their remunerations). The private and NGO institutions will get the certificate from a Chartered Account empanelled as given in the above website. The cost of hiring the Chartered Accountants will be met out of the institutional charges. In case it is not sufficient operational cost budget may be used with the permission of ADG, NASF.

ix. Only after the receipt of the AUC and the half yearly UC any funds for the second half of a financial year will be released.

x. The salaries of the RAs and SRFs will be according to ICAR norms prevalent during the period of appointment (copy of the current norms in vogue is enclosed as Annexure X). Adequate transparent and competitive procedure should be adopted for the selection of the contractual staff.

xi. **The ICAR will have no liability, whatsoever, for the SRFs and RAs or any other staff employed under the Project on contractual basis during and after expiry of the project term.**

xii. Institutional charges will be available to the Institution concerned for meeting expenditure on overheads, institutional services, monitoring, reporting, and audit which are required by the Lead or Cooperating Centres to support the project. Expenditure under this item should be properly accounted for.

xiii. Funds for every year will be released after the submission of UC and on the basis of demands for funds, scientific/technical reports, submission of data and recommendations of the PI and the ADG regarding the satisfactory achievement of research targets set for the period. The UC should be submitted head wise duly verified by competent finance officer of the institution concerned indicating head wise closing/unspent balances.

xiv. Submission of research publication, data management and cost of publication need to be as per ICAR guidelines.


Monitoring:

xv. This sanction letter, and the research project (as given in Annexure I) approved by the EC will be treated as a Work Programme Agreement between the ICAR and the Lead and the Cooperating Centres.

- (v) Whereas a minimum price for the intellectual properties is to be evaluated, it may not be rigidly adhered to; and the offers made by different parties shall be given due consideration in consultation with the Empowered Committee on the basis of recommendations of ICAR. The spirit behind this should be to commercialize the intellectual properties in the best interest of the investment.
- (vi) If one or more of the partners (i.e., the Lead or Cooperating Centre) of the Project is (are) interested to commercialize the intellectual properties, it may be given preference over other parties at mutually agreed terms and conditions between the interested partner and the ICAR.
- (vii) The ICAR will hold the right to use the intellectual property for non-commercial purposes in public interest.
- (viii) The services of the inventor(s) rendered subsequent to the transfer of intellectual property may entail earning of charges/fees etc., distribution of which will be as per the clause stated in para 4(ii) above.
- (ix) It will not be incumbent upon the ICAR to protect every Intellectual Property (IP) generated from the Project. On refusal by the ICAR to own the IP, the inventor(s) shall be free to protect it at their own cost provided ICAR has no objection to it in public interest.
6. The PI and the CCPI will not be removed/ transferred from the project without the prior consent of the Empowered Committee of the NASF.
- 7 The decision of the Empowered Committee of the NASF will be final in all matters of the project.

Receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged. The PI is requested to make copies of the sanction letter along with all the Annexures and distribute the same to the CCPI(s) and the heads of the Lead and Cooperating Centres.

Yours faithfully,


27.7.18
(P.K. Agrawal)
ADG (NASF)

Copy for information and necessary action to:

- (i) PI/CCPIs of the project.
- (ii) Heads of Cooperating Centres
- (iii) F&AO, NASF Secretariat
- (iv) Office copy